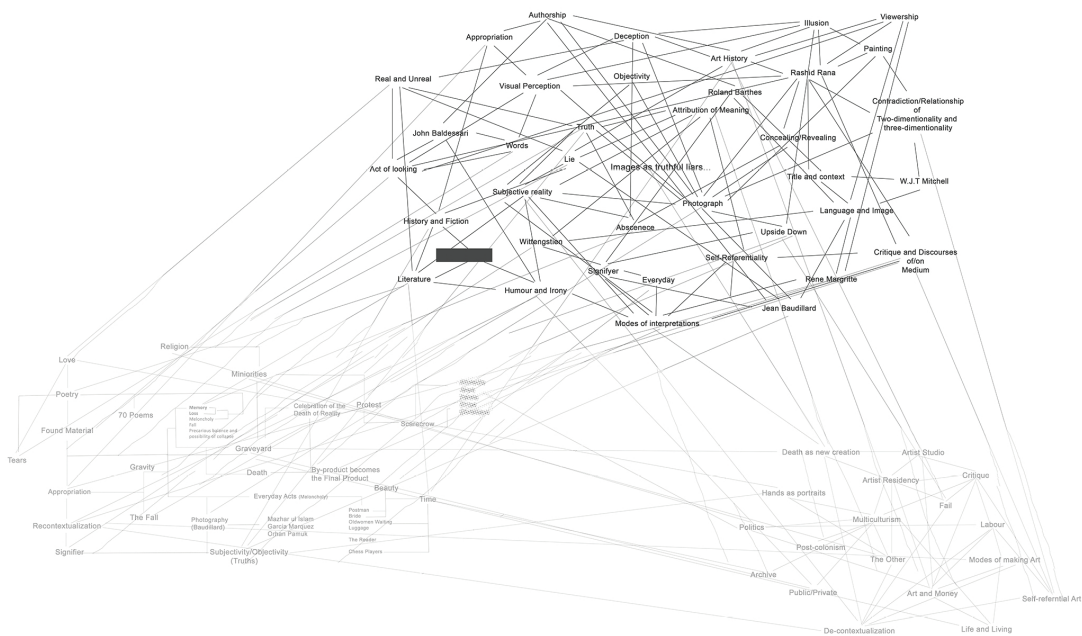


Mahbub Jokhio

## Artist Statement



Tahira Noreen

## Artist Statement

My work represents a conceptual depiction of movement, influenced by my own movement within my city as well as various travels. Travel can be both an inward as well as an outward experience—it can be a journey back in time, a reverie, or a challenge to our concept of time and movement, especially when travelling by air. Conversely, it can be an uncharted road journey leading to a distant horizon or an unknown destination.

This body of work stems from the moon series that explores the subjective perception of time through an exploration and expression of a longing. It explores various marks water makes as it shifts from the shoreline as a result of the tides, which are influenced by the moon. The comings and goings, and in particular the marks that a receding tide leaves are my inspiration. These works are a departure from my more constrained geometric repetitive works, and explore the organic formations of curved lines.

Using a precision cutter on wasli, I meticulously craft these works. As the cutter scores through the surface, it unravels each layer embedded within, forming unique tiered contours and vortexes. This process requires focused incisions, inducing a meditative state but also reaching a point of pain and numbness. By choosing the cutter as a medium, I permanently alter the paper, leaving indelible marks that cannot be replicated or erased, symbolising the irrevocable nature of time. Each incised line on the wasli signifies the passage of time and records a journey.

Ranging from basic forms to intricate geometric patterns and organic abstractions, my monochromatic works oscillate between movement and stillness and tranquillity and noise.

Waleed Zaman

## Artist Statement

This body of work is focused on color and its subtleties. It starts with a focus on discovering color as it manifests itself in natural/seasonal transitions and moves on to cosmic projections evoked through the language of geometry. Natural minerals, natural pigments and precious metals make for the palette offered by the Universe as it unfolds itself. The moment captured is critically between integration and dis-integration.

This collection is also caught in a transnational flux. During its making we were living between two worlds, physically, spiritually and mentally. Political decline and negative movements in both the East and the West took with them the final dregs of nationalism and identity. This de-construction also forced an aniconic and minimalist abstract motivation. The loss of national identity led to a further strengthening of identity based on the Spirit and Tradition.

The covert and overt celebration of religious and spiritual ideals fuels both discipline and practice. The very essence of objectivity is the capability to transcend oneself. The work of the artist is a conscious attempt to apolitically transfer the breadth and density of the energy felt and discovered (or re-discovered).